

AYINAPATTI, INDIA

Rural community needs water supply, sanitation

Current Situation in Ayinapatti: In the rural community of Ayinapatti, 599 people struggle to meet their daily water needs. There are two government-installed hand-pumps that are not working properly because a maintenance system was not initiated when the pumps were installed. The village has an overhead tank, which protects the water supply, but the water supply is undependable and insufficient.

Ninety-six of every 1,000 Indian children die before the age of 5.

In addition, adequate drainage was not provided for the hand-pump causing gray water to stagnate on the streets and creating a breeding ground for disease-carrying mosquitoes. The villagers are forced to use polluted river water for bathing and washing clothes. There are no latrine facilities at the school or at the individual households. Open defecation is routinely practiced. Waterborne diseases like cholera, dysentery, and polio are common during seasonal periods.

The Solution: The people of Ayinapatti are prepared to pay a portion of the capital costs and 100% of the maintenance costs for a new water system, but they lack the financial resources to get started. With financial support from WaterPartners International, our Indian partner organization will work with the people of Ayinapatti to develop and implement a sustainable community water supply and sanitation system. As part of this project, the current working systems will be renovated including the adding of adequate drainage



Community members of Thottiyapatti with their new handpump.

systems. Additionally, extensive training will be incorporated to educate the community on water conservation, well and pump maintenance, disease transmission and proper sanitation and hygiene practices. These components will help ensure that renovation is sustainable by increasing community ownership and establishing procedures and infrastructure..

Proposed New Water System: Renovation of existing hand pumps and drainage system.

Proposed Sanitation Facilities: Household latrines and school latrines.

Project Implementation Schedule: Project will take approximately 1 ½ years to complete.

Goals of the Ayinapatti water project:

- Eliminate hours of labor by women and children who collect water every day;
- Ensure that residents use improved hygiene practices;
- Provide enough safe water to meet every resident's personal needs for drinking, cooking and washing;
- Ensure that every household has access to a latrine



Ayinapatti is located in the Northwestern part of the Tiruchirappalli District.

The water crisis in India

India's huge and growing population is putting a severe strain on all of the country's natural resources. Most water sources are contaminated by sewage and agricultural runoff. India has made progress in the supply of safe water to its people, but gross disparity in coverage exists across the country. Latrine usage is extremely poor in rural areas of the country; only 14% of the rural population has access to a latrine. Poor access to safe water and latrines contributes to India's high infant mortality rate.